



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Friday - September 26, 2003

- ***In the West***, warm, dry weather favors autumn fieldwork, including winter wheat planting. However, ***Northwestern*** winter grains need additional rain to ensure proper autumn establishment.
- ***On the Plains***, warm, dry weather across ***central and southern portions of the region*** is promoting winter wheat planting and summer crop maturation and harvesting. Cool weather and scattered showers prevail on the ***northern Plains*** in the wake of a strong cold front. Recently sown wheat needs additional rain for even emergence and establishment, particularly from the ***central High Plains northward***.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, cool, windy, showery weather associated with a strong cold front is slowing corn and initial soybean harvesting.
- ***In the South***, locally heavy showers are confined to ***Florida*** and ***central Texas***. Elsewhere, warm, dry weather favors summer crop maturation and harvesting.

Outlook: A series of strong cold fronts will introduce unseasonably cool weather to the ***northern Plains, Midwest, and East***. On Friday and Saturday, showers and locally severe thunderstorms will accompany the initial cold front as it progresses from the ***Mississippi and Ohio Valleys*** toward the ***East Coast***. In addition, heavy rain may spread northward from the ***eastern Gulf region northward into the Mid-Atlantic States***. Over the ***western Atlantic Ocean***, Tropical Storm Juan is not forecast to affect the ***U.S. East Coast***. However, the storm is expected to move generally northward and by early next week may strike the ***Canadian Maritimes***. Meanwhile, dry, unseasonably warm weather will persist into next week across the ***West***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for October 1-5 calls for above-normal precipitation in the ***south-central U.S.***, while drier-than-normal conditions are likely across the ***northern one-third of the nation***. Near- to above-normal temperatures are expected in the ***West***, while cooler-than-normal weather is forecast from the ***Plains to the East Coast***.

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Web Site: <http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf/AgWxHighlights/TODAYSWX.PDF>